THE BLAENAVON
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

THE ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

YEAR ended 31st December, 1967

BLAENAVON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

PUBLIC HEALTH REPORT

for the year 1967.

F.J. Hallinan,
M.B.E. (Mil.),M.B.,B.CH.,B.A.O.,D.P.H.,
Area Medical Officer,
No. 7 Area, Monmouthshire.

District Medical Officer of Health,
Blaenavon Urban District Council.

Council Offices,
Lion Street,
BLAENAVON,
Mon.

April 1968.

BLAENAVON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Statistics Summary - 1967.

Area of district.	4,613 acres.
Rateable value (1.4.'67).	£133,975
Estimated product of 1d. rate (1.4.'67).	£504
Number of Council-owned houses (31.12.'67).	626
Number of Council houses built during 1967.	72
Population (estimated mid 1967).	7,970
Number of live births (1967).	101
Live birth rate per 1,000 population.	12.7
Number of illegitimate live births.	2
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births.	1.98%
Number of stillbirths.	3
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths.	29
Total live and stillbirths.	104
Number of infant deaths (under 1 year).	Nil
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births - total.	Nil
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 legitimate live births-legitimate.	Nil
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births - illegitimate.	Nil
Neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births).	Nil
Early neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births).	Nil
Perinatal mortality rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths).	29
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths.	Nil
Number of maternal deaths (including abortion).	Nil
Death rate per 1,000 population.	14.6
Number of deaths (1967).	116

Year	Births	Deaths	Natural Increases
1948	173	116	+57
1949	155	137	+18
1950	150	144	+ 6
1951	123	125	- 2
1952	129	137	- 8
1953	137	129	+ 8
1954	105	112	- 7
1955	104	158	-54
1956	119	128	- 9
1957	120	122	- 2
1958	122	119	+ 3
1959	119	110	+ 9
1960	118	118	0
1961	128	134	- 6
1962	130	124	+ 6
1963	134	132	+ 2
1964	115	102	+13
1965	122	103	+19
1966	112	113	- 1
1967	101	116	-15

BLAENAVON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Chairman: Councillor G. Bailey, D.S.M., J.P.

Vice-Chairman: Councillor E.J. Hobbs.

Central Ward Councillors:

County Councillor D.W. Puddle, B.E.M.
Councillor E.J. Hobbs.
" E.C. Hutchins, J.P.
" Miss A.M. Lewis, J.P.
" W. Price.
" Mrs. P. Roberts, J.P.

East Ward Councillors:

County Councillor W.H. Arnold.
Councillor G. Bailey, D.S.M., J.P.
" S. Banks.
" W.H. Taylor.
" K.E. Challenor.
" W.D. Morgan.

West Ward Councillors:

County Councillor A.P. Griffiths.
Councillor E.J. Davies, B.A.
" R.J. Morris, B.A.
" I.L. Gwilliam.
" C.G. Pullin.
" G.W. Spencer.

The General Purposes Committee meet on the first Wednesday each month.

The Housing Committee meet on the third Wednesday each month.

The Finance Committee meet on the last Wednesday each month (prior to the monthly meeting).

The Monthly Meeting of the Council is held on the last Wednesday in the month at 6.30 p.m.

Officers of the Council.

Clerk and Chief Financial Officer.	J. Protheroe, A.I.M.T.A.
Deputy Clerk of the Council.	F.G. Gratton, Esq.
Surveyor and Water Engineer.	M.D. Williams, Esq.
Deputy Surveyor and Water Engineer.	T.H. Lewis, Esq.
Medical Officer of Health	F.J. Hallinan, M.B.E. (Mil.), M.B., B.CH., B.A.O., D.P.H.
Address:- Municipal Offices, Hanbury Road, Pontypool.	Telephone:- Pontypool 3411 (Extension 40).
Public Health Inspector	G. Jones, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. (Resigned November 1967).
Address:- Council Offices, Lion Street, Blaenavon.	Telephone:- Blaenavon 473 (Extension 5).
	Post vacant at close of 1967.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

TO THE

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BLAENAVON.

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1967.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Blaenavon Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit for your information my Annual Public Health Report for your Urban District for the year 1967.

As previously the report is compiled to comply with Regulation 15 (5) of the Public Health Officers Regulations, 1959, and with instructions contained in Circular 1/68 (Wales) dated 2nd January, 1968, from the Welsh Board of Health.

General Comment.

This was a most successful year for this Urban District from the aspect of environmental health and was especially noteworthy in a few respects.

The year 1967 was the first year in the district's history when no notifications of pulmonary tuberculosis were received and there was only one case of the non-pulmonary form of this disease notified. This satisfactory position was also coupled with the fact that no death was assigned to any form of tuberculosis for the year. The position is better appreciated when compared with the facts of twenty years ago when there were 17 notifications received (15 pulmonary and 2 non-pulmonary) coupled with 14 deaths assigned to all forms of tuberculosis. The year 1967 was also the first year in the district's history when no deaths assigned to children under the age of one year were recorded. This is also a most satisfactory sign as the infant mortality rate for a district is a very sensitive index of progress in general public health. There were also no deaths allocated to suicide or road accidents.

During the year unfit properties continued to be represented, but progress in this direction rests on the rate at which replacement houses are built and this process should be speeded up in an old district such as this with an excess of unfit houses.

The district lost its Public Health Inspector towards the end of 1966 and the person appointed to the vacancy only remained a matter of some months before leaving again towards the end of 1967. After a period the post has been filled again, but work has obviously gone into arrears and time lost which cannot be recovered. The housing site at Ty Fry was completed during the year and contains 180 dwellings while the site of the prefabricated bungalows at Heol-y-parc was cleared and prepared for further development. There were over 70 condemned houses in the district at the close of the year whose occupants were awaiting re-housing.

The results of water sampling during the year showed a marked improvement which was mainly due to cutting out some of the older untreated sources of supply. However, there should be no further delay to the necessary works needed to give a water supply adequate in quantity and quality to the district as any up-to-date town should have in this day and age.

GENERAL STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The population estimate for the district at mid 1967 as furnished by the Registrar General was 7,970 which once again continues the yearly downward trend in population for the town as shown over the last forty six years.

1921 census population - 12,469 (6,594 males and 5,875 females)
1931 census population - 11,076 (5,847 males and 5,229 females)
1951 census population - 9,779 (4,976 males and 4,803 females)
1961 census population - 8,451 (4,257 males and 4,194 females)

Estimated mid-year population since 1952.

1952	9,628		
1953	9,589	=	39 fall
1954	9,580	=	9 "
1955	9,490	=	90 "
1956	9,320	=	170 "
1957	9,230	=	90 "
1958	9,140	=	90 "
1959	9,060	=	80 "
1960	9,010	=	50 "
1961	8,410	=	600 "
1962	8,390	=	20 "
1963	8,320	=	70 "
1964	8,210	=	110 "
1965	8,130	=	80 "
1966	8,070	=	60 "
1967	7,970	=	100 "

Elevations above sea level.

St. Peter's Church	1,035 Feet
No. 4 Reservoir	1,319 "
Penfforddgoch	1,573 "

The Blaenavon Urban District is located at the head of the Eastern Valley of Monmouthshire and is moderately well served for road transport.

Rainfall.

The district's rainfall was recorded at No. 2 Reservoir and supplied by the Council's Surveyor, M.D. Williams, Esq.

January	4.07	July	2.48
February	8.19	August	3.55
March	3.54	September	6.27
April	1.59	October	11.90
May	7.72	November	3.64
June	1.93	December	3.02

Total 57.90 ins.

The district's rainfall during the past 8 years was as follows:-

1959	62.39 ins.	1963	58.54 ins.
1960	82.75 "	1964	42.46 "
1961	53.79 "	1965	53.48 "
1962	45.05 "	1966	63.60 "

VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS.

TABLE 1 Showing the yearly number of live births, estimated mid-year population and birth rate per 1,000 population for this district since 1959.

YEAR	1967	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959
Number of live births	101	112	122	115	134	130	128	118	119
Estimated mid-year population	7,970	8,070	8,130	8,210	8,320	8,390	8,410	9,010	9,060
Birth rate per 1,000 population	12.7	13.9	15.0	14.0	16.1	15.5	15.2	13.1	13.1

There were 101 live births (56 males and 45 females) allocated to this district for the year, which is a decrease of 11 as compared with the previous year. There were 2 illegitimate births (1 male and 1 female) included in the 101 live births which is 4 less than in the previous year.

The birth rate per 1,000 population was 12.7 which continues the downward trend evident last year.

The natural increase (i.e. births over deaths) for the year shows a deficit of 15 which is the highest figure for some years.

The stillbirths for the year numbered 3 (1 male and 2 females) which was one less than in the previous year. All were of legitimate birth.

The local birth rate for the year of 12.7 per 1,000 population can be compared with the national birth rate of 17.2 (provisional) if the local rate is first adjusted by a comparability factor of 1.16 which gives a local adjusted rate of 14.7

TABLE 11 Showing the births registered in and allocated to this district for 1967 according to sex, month and quarter of occurrence, together with the inward transferable births.

	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL	QUARTERLY BIRTHS
January	-	1	1	
February	1	-	1	3
March	1	-	1	
April	-	3	3	
May	-	-	-	5
June	1	1	2	
July	-	-	-	
August	2	-	2	3
September	-	1	1	
October	-	-	-	
November	-	-	-	Nil
December	-	-	-	
TOTALS	5	6	11	11
Inward transferable births	51	39	90	
GRAND TOTALS for the year	56	45	101	

Comparative Birth Rates - 1967.

Blaenavon Urban District	14.7 (adjusted)
Monmouthshire Administrative County	17.1 (adjusted)
England and Wales	17.2 (provisional)

TABLE III — Showing the yearly number of deaths, estimated mid-year population, and the death rate per 1,000 population for this district since 1959.

YEAR	1967	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959
Number of live births	116	113	103	102	132	124	134	118	110
Estimated mid-year population	7,970	8,070	8,130	8,210	8,320	8,390	8,410	9,010	9,060
Death rate per 1,000 population	14.6	14.0	12.7	12.4	15.9	14.8	15.9	13.1	12.1

There were 116 deaths (71 males and 45 females) allocated to this district for the year which was 3 more than in the previous year. The crude death rate for the year was 14.6 per 1,000 population.

These deaths are assigned to their various causes and sex on Table V1.

The cancers claimed 24 deaths (10 males and 14 females), or 21% of the total deaths for the year. Cancer of the lungs and bronchi caused 17% of all the cancer deaths.

Cancer of the lungs and bronchi caused 4 deaths (all males) as compared with 4 deaths in 1966, 2 in 1965 and 4 in 1964.

The diseases of the heart and blood vessels caused 65 deaths (40 males and 25 females), or 56% of the total deaths.

Diseases of the respiratory system (excluding tuberculosis and cancer) caused 10 deaths (7 males and 3 females), or 9% of the total deaths.

There was no death assigned to childbirth, pregnancy or abortion.

There was no death assigned to tuberculosis of any form, road accident or suicide.

The local crude death rate of 14.6 may be compared with the national rate of 11.2 after adjustment by multiplying by a comparability factor of 1.05 to give a local adjusted rate of 15.3

TABLE IV — Showing the deaths registered in and allocated to this district for 1967 according to sex, month and quarter of occurrence together with inward transferable deaths.

MONTH	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL	QUARTERLY DEATHS
January	3	6	9	
February	5	3	8	26
March	6	3	9	
April	1	6	7	
May	4	4	8	22
June	7	-	7	
July	3	4	7	
August	5	4	9	21
September	4	1	5	
October	5	3	8	
November	2	4	6	18
December	3	1	4	
TOTALS	48	39	87	87
Inward transferable deaths	23	6	29	
GRAND TOTAL for the year	71	45	116	

Comparative Death Rates - 1967.

Blaenavon Urban District	15.3 (adjusted)
Monmouthshire Administrative County	12.9 (adjusted)
England and Wales	11.2 (provisional)

TABLE V — Showing the deaths registered in and allocated to this district for 1967 in quinquennial age groups and by sex.

AGE LAST BIRTHDAY	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL
0 - 4	-	1	1
5 - 9	-	-	-
10 - 14	-	-	-
15 - 19	-	-	-
20 - 24	-	-	-
25 - 29	-	-	-
30 - 34	-	-	-
35 - 39	1	-	1
40 - 44	1	-	1
45 - 49	1	-	1
50 - 54	6	-	6
55 - 59	4	2	6
60 - 64	14	6	20
65 - 69	7	13	20
70 - 74	15	6	21
75 - 79	11	3	14
80 - 84	8	7	15
85 - 89	2	4	6
90 - 94	1	1	2
95 and over	-	2	2
ALL AGES.	71	45	116

It is noted that 80 persons (44 males and 36 females) reached the age of 65 years at death, or 68.4% of the total deaths.

There were 39 persons (22 males and 17 females) who reached the age of 75 years at death, or 33.3% of the total deaths.

There were 10 persons (3 males and 7 females) who reached the age of 85 years at death, or 8.6% of the total deaths.

TABLE VI — Showing the deaths from all causes, infant deaths, births and stillbirths allocated to this district for 1967.

	CAUSE OF DEATH	MALE	FEMALE
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-
2.	Tuberculosis, other	-	-
3.	Syphilitic disease	-	-
4.	Diphtheria	-	-
5.	Whooping cough	-	-
6.	Meningococcal infections	-	-
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	-	-
8.	Measles	-	-
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	4
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	4	-
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	1	-
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	1
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	6	5
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-
16.	Diabetes	-	-
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	7	6
18.	Coronary disease, angina	21	6
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	1	-
20.	Other heart disease	5	10
21.	Other circulatory disease	6	3
22.	Influenza	-	-
23.	Pneumonia	1	1
24.	Bronchitis	6	2
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	-	-
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	-
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	1
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	2	1
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-
31.	Congenital malformations	-	-
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	7	4
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	-	-
34.	All other accidents	1	1
35.	Suicide	-	-
36.	Homicide and operations of war	-	-
	TOTAL ALL CAUSES	71	45
	Deaths in infants under 1 year of age:-		
	Legitimate	Nil	Nil
	Illegitimate	Nil	Nil
	TOTAL	Nil	Nil
	Total births	56	45
	Legitimate	55	44
	Illegitimate	1	1
	Still births - Total	1	2
	Legitimate	1	2
	Illegitimate	-	-

Estimated population - mid 1967 = 7,970.
(for calculation of birth and death rates).

Comparability factors:- BIRTHS 1.16 DEATHS 1.05

TABLE V11 Showing the number of inquests on persons belonging to this district during 1967 and the cause of death.

CAUSE OF DEATH	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Accidental fall - fractured femur	1	-	1
Accidental fall - fractured humerus	-	1	1
ALL CAUSES	1	1	2

The above deaths attributable to falls occurred in a male aged 91 years and a female aged 86 years.

It will be noted that there were no deaths assigned to suicide during the year.

There were also no deaths attributable to over dosage with drugs.

Deaths due to road accidents are also absent for 1967.

INFANT MORTALITY.

TABLE V111 — Showing the yearly number of infant deaths, live births, etc., for this district since 1959.

YEAR	1967	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959
Number of deaths in infants under 1 year.	Nil	7	1	3	2	5	2	4	10
Number of live births.	101	112	122	115	134	130	128	118	119
Infant mortality rate.	Nil	62.5	8.2	26.1	14.9	38.5	15.6	33.9	84.0

There were no infant deaths recorded in the district during the year which is the first time in the district's history to experience this happy state.

TABLE 1X — Showing the infant mortality rate for England and Wales etc., from 1960 - 1967.

YEAR	ENGLAND AND WALES	MONMOUTHSHIRE	BLAENAVON URBAN DISTRICT
1960	21.9	25.5	33.9
1961	21.6	28.0	15.6
1962	21.6	25.0	38.5
1963	21.1	25.6	14.9
1964	20.0	28.6	26.1
1965	19.0	21.2	8.2
1966	19.0	25.0	62.5
1967	18.3	22.0	Nil

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

The notifications of notifiable diseases received from general practitioners, hospitals, medical officers and chest physicians during 1967 are shown in age and sex groups in tables X11 and X1V.

This is the eighteenth consecutive year for which no notification of diphtheria has been received for the district, but this does not mean that there should be any relaxation in the maintenance of a high level of immunisation in the child population.

TABLE X — Showing completed primary courses of immunisation and reinforcing doses for those under 16 years for 1967.

TYPE OF VACCINE OR DOSE.	YEAR OF BIRTH					OTHERS UNDER AGE 16 YEARS.	TOTAL
	1967	1966	1965	1964	1960-63		
1. Triple D.T.P.	11	45	32	2	3	-	93
2. Diphtheria/Pertussis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3. Diphtheria/Tetanus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5. Pertussis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6. Tetanus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1+2+3+4 (Diphtheria)	11	45	32	2	3	-	93
1+2+5 (Whooping Cough)	11	45	32	2	3	-	93
1+3+6 (Tetanus)	11	45	32	2	3	-	93
	RE-INFORCING DOSES.						
1. Triple D.T.P.	-	6	30	15	18	2	71
2. Diphtheria/Pertussis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3. Diphtheria/Tetanus	-	-	8	1	21	-	30
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5. Pertussis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6. Tetanus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1+2+3+4 (Diphtheria)	-	6	38	16	39	2	101
1+2+5 (Whooping Cough)	-	6	30	15	18	2	71
1+3+6 (Tetanus)	-	6	38	16	39	2	101

These figures show a reasonable response to immunisation for the year for both primary courses of immunisation completed and reinforcing doses.

TABLE X1 Showing the number of vaccinations against smallpox carried out in the Authority's area during 1967.

AGE AT DATE OF VACCINATION	I NUMBER OF PERSONS VACCINATED (OR RE-VACCINATED) DURING PERIOD		II NUMBER OF CASES SPECIALLY REPORTED DURING PERIOD		
	Number vaccinated	Number re-vaccinated	(a) Generalised vaccinia	(b) Post-vaccinal encephalo-myelitis	(c) Death from complications of vaccination other than (a) & (b)
0 - 3 months	-	-	-	-	-
3 - 6 months	-	-	-	-	-
6 - 9 months	1	-	-	-	-
9 - 12 months	1	-	-	-	-
1 year	14	-	-	-	-
2 - 4 years	8	-	-	-	-
5 - 15 years	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	24	-	-	-	-

Primary vaccination against smallpox has not been accepted at a very high level during the year.

TABLE X11

Showing the notifiable diseases notified in this district during 1967, analysed in age and sex groups and giving the admissions to hospital. (Corrected for diagnosis). Tuberculosis excluded.

	Under 1 yr.		1-2 yrs.		2-3 yrs.		3-4 yrs.		4-5 yrs.		5-10 yrs.		10-15 yrs.		15-25 yrs.		25-35 yrs.		35-45 yrs.		45-65 yrs.		65+ yrs.		ALL AGES.			Cases admitted to hospital
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	T.	
Diphtheria.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ac. primary and influenzal pneumonia.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal infection.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Typhoid.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Encephalitis.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis:																												
Paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Smallpox.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Anthrax.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

TABLE X111 Showing the number of cases of notifiable diseases notified yearly since 1952 (corrected for diagnosis). Tuberculosis excluded.

DISEASE	1967	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	-	5	-	49	90	-	95	-	1	4	290	3	5	-	58	35
Scarlet fever	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	1	2	-	1	-	-	1
Whooping cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	1	9	-	-	3	22
Puerperal pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ac. primary and influenzal pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	3	2
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	5
Food poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
Meningococcal infections	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-
Typhoid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis:																
Paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Anthrax	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

TUBERCULOSIS.

The Chest Clinic for the district is located at the Park Buildings, Pontypool, which is within easy reach. The clinic is open all day on Tuesdays and Thursdays of each week and there are also facilities for X ray at Blaenavon Hospital which the Chest Physician visits if required.

This has been a record year for the district in-so-far as there were no notifications of pulmonary tuberculosis and only one of non-pulmonary tuberculosis. This is the first occasion on which no cases of pulmonary tuberculosis have been notified in Blaenavon over a period of a year, and it is coupled with the equally satisfactory state of having no deaths assigned to any form of tuberculosis for the same period. The contrast with the position twenty years ago is extraordinary.

A mass radiography survey for the general public of the district was arranged during the year but the attendance of 635 was less than which was expected. This may be accounted for by the fact that so many industrial concerns now make arrangements for surveys to be carried out at their factories periodically. The results of this survey are shown on Tables XV111 and X1X but there is little of significance other than the number of cases of pneumoconiosis which make up the greater part of the other abnormalities of the chest not requiring further observation.

There is a static mass radiography unit still operating at the Chest Clinic, 129, Stow Hill, Newport, for anyone requiring a chest X ray and it is open daily from Monday to Friday (9.0 a.m. to 1.0 p.m. and 2.0 p.m. to 5.0 p.m.) with an evening session on Thursdays from 5.0 p.m. to 7.0 p.m.

TABLE XIV — Showing the new cases of tuberculosis notified and the deaths due to tuberculosis during 1967 in age and sex groups and by type of disease. (corrected for diagnosis).

Age groups in yrs.	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
0 - 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 24	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
25 - 34	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 44	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 54	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 - 64	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 +	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-

It will be noted that there was only one notification of non-pulmonar tuberculosis during the year and no deaths due to any form of the disease.

There were no inward transfers of cases of tuberculosis already notified in other districts.

(Rates for 1966 in parenthesis)

(a) Tuberculosis (all forms) - Nil per 1,000 population (0.12)
(b) Pulmonary tuberculosis - Nil per 1,000 population (Nil)
(c) Non-pulmonary tuberculosis - Nil per 1,000 population (0.12)

TABLE XV — Showing the number of cases of tuberculosis remaining on the register at 31.12.'67.

Males		Females		
Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	TOTAL
33	2	19	4	58

Respiratory tuberculosis and lung cancer death rates for England and Wales - 1967.

The provisional death rate per million population for England and Wales 1967 for respiratory tuberculosis was 37 as compared with 43 for 1966.

The death rate for cancer of the lungs and bronchi per million populati was 584 (562 in 1966), which shows a further increase in deaths from this disease. In actual figures this means 28,250 deaths (23,546 males and 4,704 females) from cancer of the lungs and bronchi as compared with 27,019 for 1966. There were 1,797 deaths (1,322 males and 475 females) from pulmonary tuberculosis during 1967.

TABLE XV1 Showing the yearly notifications of tuberculosis (all forms) for males and females and the yearly deaths from all forms of tuberculosis since 1943 (corrected for diagnosis).

YEAR	YEARLY NOTIFICATIONS OF TUBERCULOSIS.				TOTAL YEARLY NOTIFICATIONS OF PULMONARY & NON-PULMONARY.	YEARLY DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS.				TOTAL OF YEARLY DEATHS FROM ALL FORMS OF TUBERCULOSIS.
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary			Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		
	Males	Females	Males	Females		Males	Females	Males	Females	
1943	8	13	3	1	25	1	6	1	-	8
1944	8	17	1	3	29	3	3	1	1	8
1945	7	8	1	1	17	-	4	1	3	8
1946	10	7	5	-	22	1	4	1	1	7
1947	6	9	2	-	17	3	6	3	2	14
1948	9	6	-	1	16	3	5	1	-	9
1949	8	8	1	-	17	1	2	-	-	3
1950	2	3	2	-	7	4	-	-	-	4
1951	5	2	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-
1952	3	8	1	-	12	1	2	-	-	3
1953	2	6	1	1	10	1	-	-	-	1
1954	1	2	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-
1955	-	5	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-
1956	2	1	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-
1957	2	1	-	1	4	1	-	-	-	1
1958	3	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-
1959	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
1960	3	1	-	-	4	2	-	-	-	2
1961	5	-	-	-	5	1	-	-	-	1
1962	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1
1963	1	1	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	1
1964	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
1965	1	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
1966	1	2	1	-	4	-	-	-	1	1
1967	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-

TABLE XV11 Showing the notification rates and death rates for tuberculosis per 1,000 of the estimated mid-year population for this district since 1938.

YEAR	NOTIFICATION RATES PER 1,000 POPULATION		DEATH RATES PER 1,000 POPULATION	
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
1938	2.93	.30	.51	.00
1939	3.02	.68	.59	.00
1940	2.11	.48	.67	.10
1941	2.62	.09	.47	.00
1942	1.00	.40	.79	.10
1943	2.14	.41	.71	.10
1944	2.54	.41	.61	.21
1945	1.55	.21	.50	.50
1946	1.74	.51	.51	.20
1947	1.54	.20	.92	.51
1948	1.51	.20	.81	.10
1949	1.61	.10	.30	.00
1950	.50	.20	.40	.00
1951	.82	.00	.00	.00
1952	1.14	.10	.31	.00
1953	.83	.21	.10	.00
1954	.31	.00	.00	.00
1955	.52	.00	.00	.00
1956	.32	.00	.00	.00
1957	.33	.11	.11	.00
1958	.33	.00	.00	.00
1959	.22	.00	.00	.00
1960	.44	.00	.22	.00
1961	.59	.00	.12	.00
1962	.12	.00	.00	.00
1963	.24	.00	.12	.00
1964	.12	.00	.00	.00
1965	.25	.00	.00	.00
1966	.37	.12	.00	.12
1967	.00	.12	.00	.00

GENERAL POPULATION MASS RADIOGRAPHY SURVEY - 1967.

Arrangements were made during the year for a visit from a unit of the Mass Radiography Service which spent a week at a central situation in the town. This survey is arranged every three years.

TABLE XV111 Showing details of Mass Radiographic Survey carried out at Blaenavon amongst the general population in June, 1967.

ANALYSIS IN AGE GROUPS.

	GRAND TOTAL	UNDER 15		15 - 24		25 - 34		35 - 44		45 - 59		60 and Over		TOTALS	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Total number examined.	635	3	9	42	62	36	42	50	66	79	86	88	72	298	337
Number found to be abnormal. (A & B)	42 or 6.61%	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	3	-	28	7	33	9
Classification of abnormal cases:-															
(a) Requiring further observation.	6 or 0.94%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	[illegible]	1	5	1	5	1
(b) Other abnormalities of the chest.	36 or 5.67%	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	3	-	23	6	28	8

TABLE X1X — Analysis of other abnormalities of the chest not requiring further observation during the Mass Radiographic Survey carried out at Blaenavon amonst the general population in June, 1967.

NO.	CLASSIFICATION OF ABNORMALITY		MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
A.	TUBERCULOUS ABNORMALITIES				
0 & 1	Tuberculosis (known case under Chest Clinic supervision prior to Mass Radiography examination).		-	-	-
2	Healed Primary Tuberculosis		-	-	-
3	Healed Post-Primary Tuberculosis		1	3	4
B.	NON-TUBERCULOUS ABNORMALITIES				
1	Abnormality of the bony thorax and soft tissues		1	-	1
2	Malignant Neoplasm		-	-	-
3	Non-Malignant Neoplasm		-	-	-
4	Lymphadenopathies, excluding sarcoidosis		-	-	-
5	Sarcoids (including enlarged hilar glands)		-	-	-
6	Congenital cardiac abnormalities and abnormalities of the vascular system		-	-	-
7	Acquired cardiac abnormalities and abnormalities of the vascular system		-	4	4
8	Pneumoconiosis: without P.M.F.	Stage 1	-	-	-
		Stage 2	20	-	20
		Stage 3	-	-	-
		Stage not known	1	-	1
9	Pneumoconiosis: with P.M.F.		1	-	1
10	Pulmonary fibrosis - non-tuberculous (to include asthma, bronchitis)		2	-	2
11	Emphysema		2	-	2
12	Bronchiectasis		-	-	-
13	Bacterial, virus and other infection of the lungs		-	-	-
14	Pleural thickening or calcification		-	-	-
15	Abnormalities of the diaphragm and oesophagus		-	1	1
16	Malformation of the lungs (to include lobar malformation and honeycomb lung)		-	-	-
17	Spontaneous pneumothorax		-	-	-
	Miscellaneous		-	-	-
	TOTALS		28	8	36

MISCELLANEOUS.

National Assistance Act, 1948.

Action to secure the compulsory removal of persons in need of care and attention under Section 47 of the above Act was not needed during the year.

Registered Common Lodging Houses.

This district has no common lodging house.

Public Swimming Bath.

The public swimming bath in this district is an open-air one controlled by the Council and provided with modern purification plant. Samples taken during the swimming season were satisfactory.

Superannuation Acts.

The Medical Officer of Health carried out 13 medical examinations on Council employees during the year and 1 of these referred to a "break-down" pension.

County Weights and Measures Officer's Report for this District.

The County Weights and Measures Officer, R.J. Bullen, Esq., reports that a total of 36 samples of food were taken for analysis in your district during the year. These 36 samples included 19 milks, 16 other foods and one ice-cream and all were certified as genuine by the Public Analyst.

Water Supplies.

A number of the older sources of untreated water supply to the town have been eliminated and of the 36 samples taken for bacteriological analysis during the year all but 2 were reported on as satisfactory. The water from No. 2 Reservoir is treated by slow sand filtration and later mixed with chlorinated water before going into the supply. The Engineer and Surveyor has a project on hand for a new reservoir to further improve the situation but is, I understand, encountering many difficulties which are hindering his project in this respect, and thus depriving this district of the satisfactory water supply which should have been made available many years ago.

HOUSING - RETURN FOR THE YEAR 1967.

A. HOUSES DEMOLISHED DURING THE YEAR	IN OR ADJOINING CLEARANCE AREAS DECLARED under Section 42 of the Hsg. Act 1957.	Unfit for human habitation	No. of houses No. of separate dwellings contained therein	Nil Nil
		Included by reason of bad arrangement	No. of houses No. of separate dwellings contained therein.	Nil Nil
		On land acquired under Section 43 (2) Housing Act, 1957.	No. of houses No. of separate dwellings contained therein.	Nil Nil
	NOT IN OR ADJOINING CLEARANCE AREAS	As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 16 or Section 17 (1) Housing Act, 1957.	No. of houses. No. of separate dwellings contained therein.	
		Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health	No. of houses No. of separate dwellings contained therein.	Nil Nil
		Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under Local Acts	No. of houses No. of separate dwellings contained therein.	Nil Nil
		Houses included in unfitness orders under para. 2 of the Second Schedule to the land compensation Act 1961	No. of houses No. of separate dwellings contained therein.	Nil Nil
	Number of separate dwellings included above which were previously reported as closed.		Reported as closed up to 31st December, 1967. Reported as closed since 31st December, 1967	Nil Nil
B. UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED during the year in pursuance of closing orders or under-takings.		Under Sections 16 (4), 17(1) 7 35 (1) Housing Act 1957 and Section 26 hsg. Act 1961.	No. of houses. No. of separate dwellings contained therein.	10 10
		Under Sections 17 (3) and 26 Housing Act 1957	No. of houses. No. of separate dwellings contained therein.	Nil Nil
		PARTS OF BUILDINGS CLOSED under Section 18 Housing Act 1957		1
C. Number of PERSONS DISPLACED during year.		From houses to be demolished in or adjoining clearance areas. From houses to be demolished not in or adjoining clearance areas. From houses to be closed. From parts of buildings to be closed.		19 185 Nil 3
D. Number of FAMILIES DISPLACED during year.		From houses to be demolished in or adjoining clearance areas. From houses to be demolished not in or adjoining clearance areas. From houses closed. From parts of buildings to be closed.		5 51 Nil 1

GENERAL HOUSING DETAILS.

1.	Number of post-war Council houses completed at 31.12.'67.	407
2.	Other houses.	11
3.	Number of Council houses completed during 1967.	72
4.	Number of houses completed by private enterprise during 1967.	4
5.	Number of Council houses under construction at 31.12.'67.	-
6.	Number of houses under construction by private enterprise at 31.12.'67.	5
7.	Number of houses owned by the Local Authority - permanent.	626
8.	Number of houses condemned during the year (demolition and closing orders and confirmed clearance areas)	10
9.	Number of individual unfit properties represented during 1967.	11
10.	Number of clearance areas confirmed during the year.	Nil
11.	Number of unfit properties included in these clearance areas.	Nil
12.	Number of condemned properties still occupied at the end of the year.	78
13.	Number of certificates of disrepair issued during 1967.	Nil
14.	Number of houses in which defects were remedied after informal notice.	7
15.	Number of houses in which defects were remedied after formal notice.	4

INSPECTION OF FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES, ETC.

Fresh Meat.

All supplies of fresh meat are imported into the District as there is no public or private slaughterhouse in operation in the town. These supplies appear to be adequate to meet the town's needs and there is no evidence to suggest that a slaughterhouse is required in view of this fact. There is no poultry processing premises in the district.

Milk Supply.

There is no pasteurising plant in the town and the milk supply comes from plants outside the district.

During the year 15 samples of milk were taken and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Newport, for analysis and all were reported on as reaching the prescribed standard. No samples were examined for brucella abortus as no raw milk is sold in the town.

Inspection of Food Shops.

Food shops in the district were periodically inspected during the year to ensure compliance with the Food Hygiene Regulations, and notices served when such was not the case.

TRADE	NO.	COMPLIANCE WITH REGULATIONS	
		16	19
Grocery, general store and confectionary.	42	20	22
Greengrocery, fishmongery.	8	6	8
Butchers' shops.	9	9	9
Fried fish shops.	3	3	3
Licensed victuallers.	18	18	18
Clubs.	9	9	9

Premises Registered under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. (Section 16).

There are 30 premises registered under the above Act.

TABLE XX — Showing slum clearance progress, re-housing from unfit houses, etc., since 1959.

(1)	No. of unfit houses represented yearly (2)	No. of houses in col. (2) which were vacant when represented (3)	No. of unfit houses condemned yearly (4)	No. of re-housings from condemned houses yearly (5)	No. of Council houses built each year (6)
1959	58	1	33	-	-
1960	32	2	34	6	6
1961	2	1	25	66	66
1962	1	-	1	1	-
1963	38	4	11	2	-
1964	61	3	72	1	-
1965	47	2	52	49	42
1966	64	9	75	25	74
1967	11	-	10	51	72
1959 to 1967	330	22	328	201	260

There is an urgent need, despite a falling population, to provide more housing accommodation to replace the many unfit properties existing in this area.

HOUSING ACT, 1949.

Improvement Grants under the above Act.

(a)	Number of improvement grants, 1967	11
(b)	Total number of improvement grants 1949-1967	192
(c)	Amount of improvement grants, 1967	£ 2,995.15.7d.
(d)	Total amount of improvement grants, 1949-1967 (inclusive)	£46,637.14.6d.

Improvement Loans under the above Act.

(a)	Number of improvement loans, 1967	2
(b)	Total number of improvement loans, 1949-1967	6
(c)	Amount of improvement loans, 1967	£700
(d)	Total amount of improvement loans, 1949-1967 (inclusive)	£2,110. 0.0d.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 to 1961.

The following tables show the number and type of factories in the district and the inspections carried out during 1967 in connection with the above Acts.

TABLE XX1 Showing the number of factories and the inspections thereof for 1967.

Premises	Number of			
	No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are enforced by Local Authority.	-	-	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the L.A.	26	12	-	-
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises).	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	26	12	-	-

TABLE XX11 Showing the defects found in factories and the action taken to remedy them during the year.

Particulars	Number of defects.				
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Insp.	Referred by H.M. Insp.	Number of Prosecutions
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2.)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S.7.)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to out-work).	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	-	-	-	-

TABLE XX111 Showing details of out workers for 1967(Sections 133 and 134).

	SECTION 133			SECTION 134		
Nature of work	No. of out workers in August list required by Sec. 133(1)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices Served	Prosecutions
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Wearing apparel making etc. cleaning and washing.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Household linen, lace, lace curtains and nets.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Curtains and furniture hangings.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Furniture and upholstery.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Electro-plate.	-	-	-	-	-	-
File making.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brass and brass articles.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fur pulling.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iron and steel cables and chains.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iron and steel anchors and grapnels.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cart gear.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Locks, latches and keys.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Umbrellas etc.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Artificial flowers.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nets other than wire nets.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tents.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sacks.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Racquet and tennis balls.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paper bags.	-	-	-	-	-	-
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brush making.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pea picking.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Feather sorting.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carding etc. of buttons etc.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stuffed toys.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Basket making.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chocolates and sweetmeats.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cosaques, christmas stockings etc.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Textile weaving.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lampshades.	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	-	-	-	-	-

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

Report for the year ended 31st December, 1967.

	Local Authority (1)	Dwelling Houses (2)	All others including Business Premises (3)	TOTAL cols. 1, 2, 3.	Agricultural
1. Number of properties in Local Authority's district.	46	2,737	213	3,003	6
2. Number of properties inspected as a result of:					
(a) notification	-	144	13	157	-
(b) survey under the Act	-	-	-	-	-
(c) otherwise	-	36	6	42	-
3. Total inspections carried out (including re-inspections).	-	540	57	597	-
4. Number of properties inspected (in Sec. 2) found to be infested by:					
Rats - major	-	-	-	-	-
minor	-	165	11	176	-
Mice - major	-	-	-	-	-
minor	-	15	8	23	-
5. Number of infested properties (in Sec. 4) treated by L.A.	-	180	19	199	-
6. Number of notices served under Section 4 of the Act (a) T (a) Treatment Structual works i.e. proofing.	-	-	-	-	-
7. Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Section 4 of the Act.	-	-	-	-	-
8. Legal proceedings.	-	-	-	-	-
9. Number of block control schemes carried out.	-	-	-	-	-

I wish to thank all departments for their co-operation during the year.

Yours obediently,

F. Hallinan

Medical Officer of Health.